IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A glass-ceramic plate intended, for example, to cover or receive heating elements, and comprising at least one opening located within a local deformation of the bent portion of said plate, this opening being at a location other than a heating area and/or having at least one dimension greater than 10 cm and/or an angular and/or complex shape.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein it said plate is provided or combined or intended configured to be used with a suction hood for allowing in particular for the extraction of cooking gases.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2 claim 1, wherein the said opening is at least 35 mm from the an edge and/or from each heating area of the plate.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, wherein the said opening occupies a position mid-way between the cooking areas, generally it is in a central area of the said plate.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 4 claim 1, wherein the said opening has a polygonal or angular shape.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 5 claim 2, wherein the said suction hood is located beneath the said plate in its operating position.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6 claim 2, wherein the said opening is covered with a protective element preventing configured to

Application Serial No.: 10/812,945

Reply to Office Action dated June 13, 2005

prevent objects from dropping through it therethrough while still allowing the cooking gases to be sucked out, such as a mesh therethrough.

- 8. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing a plate as claimed in one of elaims 1 to 7 claim 1, comprising the forming of the plate, preferably consisting in by a sinking, molding or pressing operation, with, where appropriate, the use of using one or more supports or one or more surfaces having the a desired geometry.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein a forming operation is carried out by a sinking operation, in order to raise the <u>an</u> edge of the opening relative to the <u>a</u> plane of the plate during the <u>a</u> glass plate ceramification cycle, the raising being preferably produced by means of an element or bearing piece of <u>having a</u> shape corresponding to that of the opening that it is desired to obtain.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A cooking and/or high-temperature-maintaining device comprising a glass-ceramic plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 7 claim 1.
- 11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for manufacturing a glass-ceramic plate as claimed in one of claims 1 to 7, comprising at least one element or bearing piece for producing the raised feature bent portion.
- 12. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 7, wherein said protective element is a mesh.
- 13. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plate is of a one-piece construction.
- 14. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein an outer peripheral edge around said opening is bent upwards.

Application Serial No.: 10/812,945 Reply to Office Action dated June 13, 2005

15. (New) The plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein said opening is at least 35 mm from each heating area of said plate.